

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

*Please amend the claims as follows:*

1. (canceled)
2. (canceled).
3. (canceled)
4. (canceled).
5. (currently amended) A first communication unit according to claim ~~3~~36,  
wherein said first communication unit is a mobile station of a mobile radio system,  
wherein said second communication units are base transceiver stations, and  
wherein said third communication units are mobile-services switching centres.
6. (previously presented) A first communication unit according to claim 5,  
wherein said third communication unit of said first type is a mobile-services switching centre of a mobile network operated according to the universal mobile telecommunications system standard or a derivative thereof, and  
wherein said third communication unit of said second type is a mobile-services switching centre of a mobile network operated according to the global system for mobile communications standard or a derivative thereof.
7. (currently amended) A first communication unit according to claim ~~5~~36,  
wherein said protocol is a circuit switched, non-transparent single- and/or multi-link data protocol with an automatic repeat request (ARQ).

8. (previously presented) A first communication unit according to claim 7,  
wherein said protocol is a radio link protocol.
9. (currently amended) A first communication unit according to claim ~~7~~36,  
wherein said ~~parameter defines a value of a~~ re-sequencing timer ~~that~~ guards a  
difference between delays of frames transmitted on different physical links within a  
multi-link protocol.
10. (canceled)
11. (currently amended) A first communication unit according to claim ~~10~~36,  
wherein said ~~checking whether said parameter needs to be negotiated or re-~~  
~~negotiated comprises checking whether a value for said re-sequencing timer~~ that is  
available as a basis for negotiation is a user-defined value~~was defined by a user of said~~  
~~mobile station.~~
12. (canceled)
13. (canceled)
14. (canceled)
15. (canceled)
16. (currently amended) A third communication unit according to claim ~~35~~37,  
wherein said first communication unit is a mobile station of a mobile radio  
system,  
wherein said second communication units are base transceiver stations, and  
wherein said third communication unit is a mobile-services switching centre.

17. (currently amended) A third communication unit according to claim 16,

wherein said third communication unit of said first type is a mobile-services switching centre of a mobile network operated according to the universal mobile telecommunications system standard or a derivative thereof ~~one out of said first and second types of said second communication unit is a base transceiver station that is connected to its associated mobile-services switching centre via a lower-delay network,~~  
and

wherein said third communication unit of said second type is a mobile-services switching centre of a mobile network operated according to the global system for mobile communications standard or a derivative thereof ~~the other type of said second communication unit is a base transceiver station that is connected to its associated mobile-services switching centre via a higher-delay network.~~

18. (canceled)

19. (canceled)

20. (canceled)

21. (currently amended) A third communication unit according to claim ~~35~~37,

wherein said protocol is a circuit switched, non-transparent single- and/or multi-link data protocol with automatic repeat request (ARQ).

22. (previously presented) A third communication unit according to claim 21,

wherein said protocol is a radio link protocol.

23. (canceled)

24. (currently amended) A third communication unit according to claim ~~24~~37,

wherein said ~~parameter defines a value of a~~ value for said re-sequencing timer that guards a difference between delays of frames transmitted on different physical links

within a multi-link protocol.

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) A method for negotiation of at least one parameter for use in the operation of a protocol that controls data transmission between first communication units and third communication units via second communication units,

~~where~~ said protocol is operated by protocol entities in said first and third communication units,

~~where a first communication unit is associated with at least one second communication unit,~~

~~where a second communication unit is associated with at least one third communication unit, and~~

~~where there exist third communication units of at least a first and second type that require different choices of said parameter,~~

said method comprising:

transmitting, in case that it is possible that an association of ~~said~~ a first communication unit with a second communication unit that is associated with a third communication unit of ~~said~~ a first type may be changed to an association of said first communication unit with a second communication unit that is associated with a third communication unit of ~~said~~ a second type, wherein said third communication unit of said first and second type require different choices of said parameter,

at least one negotiation message containing a value for said parameter from a protocol entity of said first communication unit to a protocol entity of said third communication unit of said first type or from a protocol entity of said third communication unit of said first type to a protocol entity of said first communication unit prior to said change of associations;

wherein it is checked by a protocol entity in said first communication unit or in said third communication unit of said first type whether it is possible that said data transmission between said first communication unit and said third communication unit of said second type is a multi-link data transmission that requires a definition of a re-

sequencing timer as said parameter for said protocol; and

whether a value for said re-sequencing timer is available as a basis for negotiation.

27. (canceled)

28. (canceled)

29. (canceled)

30. (currently amended) A system comprising first communication units, second communication units and third communication units, wherein the system is for data transmission between said first communication units of said system and said third communication units of said system via said second communication units of said system,

wherein a protocol that controls said data transmission is operated by protocol entities in said first and third communication units,

~~where a first communication unit is associated with at least one second communication unit,~~

~~where a second communication unit is associated with at least one third communication unit, and~~

~~where there exist third communication units of at least a first and second type that require different choices of at least one parameter for use in the operation of said protocol,~~

and wherein in case that it is possible that an association of a first communication unit with a second communication unit that is associated with a third communication unit of said a first type may be changed to an association of said first communication unit with a second communication unit that is associated with a third communication unit of said a second type, wherein said third communication unit of said first and second type require different choices of at least one parameter for use in the operation of said protocol.

said protocol entities of said first communication unit and protocol entities of said third communication unit of said first type exchange -at least one negotiation message containing a value for said parameter prior to said change of associations, and

wherein in said exchange of said at least negotiation message, said protocol entities in said first communication unit or said third communication unit of said first type check whether it is possible that said data transmission between said first communication unit and said third communication unit of said second type is a multi-link data transmission that requires a definition of a re-sequencing timer as said parameter for said protocol, and whether a value for said re-sequencing timer is available as a basis for negotiation.

31. (canceled)

32. (canceled)

33. (canceled)

34. (canceled)

35. (canceled)

36. (currently amended) A first communication unit useable in a system for data transmission between first communication units of said system and third communication units of said system via second communication units of said system,

wherein a protocol that controls said data transmission is operated by protocol entities in said first and third communication units,

~~where a first communication unit is associated with at least one second communication unit,~~

~~where a second communication unit is associated with at least one third communication unit, and~~

~~where there exist third communication units of at least a first and second type that require different choices of at least one parameter for use in the operation of said protocol,~~

said first communication unit comprising:

a transmitter configured to transmit, in case that it is possible that an association of said first communication unit with a second communication unit that is associated with a third communication unit of ~~said~~ a first type may be changed to an association of said first communication unit with a second communication unit that is associated with a third communication unit of ~~said~~ a second type, wherein said third communication unit of said first and second type require different choices of at least one parameter for use in the operation of said protocol, at least one negotiation message, which contains a value for said parameter, from a protocol entity of said first communication unit to a protocol entity of said third communication unit of said first type prior to said change of associations; and

wherein a protocol entity of said first communication unit is configured to check whether it is possible that said data transmission between said first communication unit and said third communication unit of said second type is a multi-link data transmission that requires a definition of a re-sequencing timer as said parameter for said protocol, and to check whether a value for said re-sequencing timer is available as a basis for negotiation.

37. (currently amended) A third communication unit useable in a system for data transmission between first communication units of said system and third communication units of said system via second communication units of said system,

wherein a protocol that controls said data transmission is operated by protocol entities in said first and third communication units,

~~where a first communication unit is associated with at least one second communication unit,~~

~~where a second communication unit is associated with at least one third communication unit, and~~

~~where there exist third communication units of at least a first and second type that require different choices of at least one parameter for use in the operation of said protocol;~~

~~wherein said third communication unit is a third communication unit of said a first type and comprises:~~

a transmitter configured to transmit, in case that it is possible that an association of a first communication unit with a second communication unit that is associated with said third communication unit may be changed to an association of said first communication unit with a second communication unit that is associated with a third communication unit of said a second type, wherein said third communication unit and said third communication unit of said second type require different choices of at least one parameter for use in the operation of said protocol, at least one negotiation message, which contains a value for said parameter, from a protocol entity of said third communication unit to a protocol entity of said first communication unit prior to said change of associations;

wherein a protocol entity of said third communication unit is configured to check whether it is possible that said data transmission between said first communication unit and said third communication unit of said second type is a multi-link data transmission that requires a definition of a re-sequencing timer as said parameter for said protocol, and whether a value for said re-sequencing timer is available as a basis for negotiation.

38. (canceled)

39. (currently amended) A non-transitory computer readable memory in which a computer program is loaded, the computer program product comprising software code portions, said software code portions when run on a computer for performing the actions of claim 26.

40. (canceled)

41. (canceled)



42. (canceled)

43. (canceled)

44. (canceled)

45. (new) The method according to claim 26,  
wherein said first communication unit is a mobile station of a mobile radio system,  
wherein said second communication units are base transceiver stations, and  
wherein said third communication units are mobile-services switching centres.

46. (new) The method according to claim 45,  
wherein said third communication unit of said first type is a mobile-services switching centre of a mobile network operated according to the universal mobile telecommunications system standard or a derivative thereof, and  
wherein said third communication unit of said second type is a mobile-services switching centre of a mobile network operated according to the global system for mobile communications standard or a derivative thereof.

47. (new) The method according to claim 45,  
wherein said protocol is a radio link protocol.

48. (new) The method according to claim 45,  
wherein said protocol is a circuit switched, non-transparent single- and/or multi-link data protocol with automatic repeat request (ARQ).

49. (new) The method according to claim 26,  
wherein said re-sequencing timer guards a difference between delays of frames transmitted on different physical links within a multi-link protocol.

50. (new) The method according to claim 26,  
wherein said value for said re-sequencing timer that is available as a basis for negotiation is a user-defined value.

51. (new) The third communication unit according to claim 37,  
wherein said value for said re-sequencing timer that is available as a basis for negotiation is a user-defined value.